

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND 1322 PATTERSON AVENUE, SE, SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON NAVY YARD, DC 20374-5065

> 5720 Ser BD/030 15 June 2020

Mr. Robert Brooks 15839 Big Springs Way San Diego, CA 92127

Dear Mr. Brooks,

Subj: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) APPEAL OF CASE NUMBER DON-NAVY-2020-005132

We are writing to respond to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal of May 28, 2020, where we withheld one responsive record in full under FOIA Exemption 5 (5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(5)).

After consultation with the Navy Assistant to the General Counsel, we have reconsidered our previous final response and are now releasing the responsive record to you, with redactions. The redacted information is being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(5) (herein referred to as "Exemption 5") and (b)(6) (herein referred to as "Exemption 6") of the FOIA. Exemption 5 protects materials and information that is predecisional and part of the deliberative process. Exemption 6 allows an Agency to withhold personal information that, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

You have the right to an appeal. The appeal must be received within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Please provide a letter requesting an appeal, with a copy of your initial request and a copy of the letter of denial, in an envelope marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." You are encouraged (though not required) to provide an explanation as to why you believe the redactions were inappropriate or our search was inadequate. Also, please provide a copy of your appeal letter to us at Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1322 Patterson Avenue, SE, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5065.

There are two ways to file an appeal—through FOIAonline or by mail.

1. Through FOIAonline: Go to

https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home/. Locate your request (enter a keyword or the request tracking number in the "Search" field), click on it, then the "Create Appeal" tab in the left-hand column. Complete the subsequent field, click "Save," and FOIAonline will submit your appeal.

2. By mail: Address your appeal to:

Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel 1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 5A532 Washington, DC 20350-1000

If you have any questions, please contact the FOIA coordinator at abby.machalec@navy.mil, (202) 685-9269. You may also contact the Department of the Navy (DON) FOIA Public Liaison, Christopher Julka, at christopher.a.julka@navy.mil, (703) 697-0031. In addition, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) provides a voluntary mediation process for resolving disputes between persons making FOIA requests and the DON. For more information, go to https://www.archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/contact-information.

Sincerely,

P. A. POLLOCK By direction

Copy to: NAVFAC (IG, 00C)